



[Eighth Parliament - First Session]

No. 88.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Tuesday, August 09, 2016 at 1.00 p.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

385/15

1.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Home Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that —
 - (i) the maximum limit applicable in approving the project estimates by Technical Officers under the Ministry of Public Administration and Management is Rs.10 lakhs;
 - (ii) approving project estimates exceeding Rs.10 lakhs has to be done by an officer of the Special Grade of the Sri Lanka Technological Service;
 - (iii) a sufficient number of officers of the Special Grade of the Technological Service is lacking in Public Service; and
 - (iv) delays occur in approving project estimates as a result ?
- (b) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the number of Technical Officers; and
 - (ii) the number of officers of the Special Grade of the Technological Service;
serving in the Southern Province at present?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether action will be taken to increase the maximum limit applicable in approving the project estimates by Technical Officers;
 - (ii) whether action will be taken for fresh recruitment of officers of the Special Grade of the Technological Service; and
 - (iii) of the other measures that will be taken to avoid the delays in approving projects?
- (d) If not, why?

2.

Hon. Kanaka Herath,— To ask the Minister of Women and Child Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will she inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of child abuse cases reported in the country in year 2015;
 - (ii) whether investigations have been carried out regarding suspects of the aforesaid cases and offenders have been lawfully punished;
 - (iii) whether there are incidents regarding which action could not be taken according to the law after conducting investigations; and
 - (iv) if so, whether some action will be taken to expedite these investigations?
- (b) If not, why?

599/16

3.

Hon. Lucky Jayawardana,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of government schools operating in Sri Lanka; and
 - (ii) separately of the number of schools operating under Provincial Councils and the number of schools operating under the Central Government out of the aforesaid schools?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
 - (i) out of the schools mention in (a)(i) above, the number of schools in which principals are assigned on acting and temporary basis without a permanent appointment;
 - (ii) whether he admits that administration of these schools which do not have principals with permanent appointments is not carried out properly;
 - (iii) whether immediate steps will be taken to appoint principals on permanent basis to these schools which do not have principals appointed on permanent basis; and
 - (iv) if so, of the date on which it will be done?
- (c) If not, why?

609/16

4.

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa,— To ask the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) separately for each year the methodology adopted pertaining to the purchase of spare parts for buses by the Sri Lanka Transport Board in the years 2012, 2013 and 2014; and
 - (ii) how different this methodology is from the methodology which existed previously?

(3)

- (b) Will he inform this House separately pertaining to the above years—
- (i) of the companies that submitted tenders for the provision of spare parts for SLTB in the above years and their addresses;
 - (ii) of the Company to which the tender was given and its address;
 - (iii) of the dates on which the spare parts were supplied and their value; and
 - (iv) of the import tax paid to the government for the importation of spare parts?
- (c) Will he also inform this House whether the SLTB is satisfied with the prices, standard and the requirement of the spare parts imported?
- (d) If not, why?

625/16

5.

Hon. S. M. Marikkar,— To ask the Minister of City Planning and Water Supply,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) the capacity of the electricity generator of the Ambatale Water Treatment Plant;
 - (ii) the daily consumption of hydro electricity units in the Ambatale Water Treatment Plant;
 - (iii) whether this generator is sufficient to maintain an uninterrupted supply of drinking water when there is a long term power outage;
 - (iv) if so, the reason for the Ambatale Water Treatment Plant to stop functioning on Sunday the 13th March 2016 due to the island wide blackout;
 - (v) if the aforesaid generator is not sufficient whether the chief of the Ambatale Water Treatment Plant informed the relevant authorities;
 - (vi) if it had been informed, the action that has been taken in this regard;
 - (vii) if it had been informed the steps that will be taken against the authorities on their negligence;
 - (viii) if not, the steps that will be taken against the responsible persons on their failure to inform it;
 - (ix) whether steps will be taken to ensure an uninterrupted supply of drinking water to the people in Sri Lanka in the future; and
 - (x) if so, can you explain about it?
- (b) If not, why?

6.

Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara,— To ask the Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that —
- (i) a complaint has been made at the Human Rights Commission by 18 employees of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation in the year 2003 to the effect that their Human Rights have been violated;
 - (ii) in 2007, it has been informed to the then Ministry of Mass Media and Information that human rights of the aforesaid employees were violated; and
 - (iii) accordingly in 2014, the then Secretary to the President Mr. Lalith Weerathunga notified all Secretaries that the decision of the Human Rights Commission should be implemented?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
- (i) whether the Ministry of Mass Media recognizes Circular No. 17/2005 issued by the Ministry of Public Administration; and
 - (ii) if so, whether rights of the 18 employees of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation mentioned in (a)(i) above will be granted as per the aforementioned circular?
- (c) If not, why?

7.

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila,— To ask the Minister of Finance,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) the year in which the granting of liquor licences to Members of Parliament commenced;
 - (ii) as to who was the Head of the Government of Sri Lanka at that time;
 - (iii) the year in which liquor licences were granted to Members of Parliament last; and
 - (iv) as to who was the Head of the Government of Sri Lanka at that time?
- (b) Will he also inform this House of the Members of Parliament who did not obtain liquor licences when they were granted to Members of Parliament last?
- (c) If not, why?

8.

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti,— To ask the Minister of Public Administration and Management,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) the number of candidates applied for the “Open Competitive Examination for Appointment to Grade II, Class 2 of Sri Lanka Information and Communication Technology Service-2015” conducted by the Department of Examinations on 26.06.2015 by calling applications through Gazette Notification No. 1904 dated 27.02.2015;
- (ii) with Rs. 500/- per person, the total amount of money collected as examination fees;
- (iii) the number who gained qualifications to fill vacancies subsequent to the examination and interviews conducted to examine qualifications;
- (iv) whether he will table the list of names of those who gained qualifications and the order of marks; and
- (v) the reason for not recruiting those who fulfilled the qualifications yet ?

(b) If not, why?

9.

Hon. M. H. M. Salman,— To ask the Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether he is aware that the need of obtaining the contribution and assistance of the trustees of the Jumma mosques by the Quasi Judges arises, when enforcing Section 24 of the Muslim Marriages and Divorce Act, No. 1951/13; and
- (ii) whether steps will be taken to issue the necessary instructions educating the trustees of the Jumma mosques on the need to display the announcements referred to them by Quasi Judges on official matters on the notice boards of the mosques and on that traditional responsibility?

(b) If not, why?

663/16

10.

Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra,— To ask the Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of Post Masters, treated as having less qualifications;
 - (ii) whether they are entitled to a pension;
 - (iii) if not, is it possible to provide them with a relief allowance, in view of their long term service to the Postal Service; and
 - (iv) if not, of the measures taken for their wellbeing?
- (b) If not, why?

667/16

11.

Hon. Bimal Rathnayake,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether there is an agreement or accord entered into with the government of China with regard to the Special Chinese Industrial Zone, associated to the Mattala Airport which is said to have been agreed to by the Prime Minister on his visit to China, as stated by the government;
 - (ii) if so, whether that document will be tabled;
 - (iii) whether he will make a clarification of the preliminary conditions of establishing that Special Chinese Industrial Zone and the manner it is managed; and
 - (iv) whether a map of the land earmarked for that industrial zone will be presented?
- (b) If not, why?

386/15

12.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether an investigation is being carried out at present against Major J.R.S. Rupasinghe, of Sri Lanka Army;
 - (ii) if so, the reason for it; and
 - (iii) the names and the positions of the officers who conduct the aforesaid investigation?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether steps will be taken to do some justice to Major J.R.S. Rupasinghe; and
 - (ii) if so, the manner in which it will be done?
- (c) If not, why?

13.

Hon. Lucky Jayawardana,— To ask the Minister of Buddhasasana,—(1)

- (a) Will he admit that —
 - (i) a large number of agencies which organize pilgrimage tours to Dambadiva are operating in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) some of such agencies do not make appropriate arrangements to ensure the safety of the pilgrims who go on pilgrimages overseas; and
 - (iii) devotees experience serious difficulties due to this reason?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of pilgrims who go on pilgrimages to visit the sacred places in Dambadiva annually;
 - (ii) whether a proper methodology will be developed to monitor the agencies that organize pilgrimages in order to ensure the safety of the pilgrims who go on pilgrimages overseas; and
 - (iii) if so, of the date on which such methodology will be developed?
- (c) If not, why?

14.

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa,— To ask the Minister of Industry and Commerce,—(1)

- (a) Will he state separately in relation to each year from 2010 to date —
 - (i) the quantity of karunka (dried arecanut) that has been exported from Sri Lanka to India;
 - (ii) the value of the aforesaid quantity of karunka;
 - (iii) the names and addresses of the exporters of the aforesaid quantity;
 - (iv) the quantity and the value of the karunka that has been exported by each exporter; and
 - (v) the value of the tax that has been paid to the government by each exporter?
- (b) Will he also state separately in relation to each year from 2010 to date —
 - (i) the quantity of karunka that has been imported to Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) the value of the aforesaid quantity;
 - (iii) the names and addresses of the importers of the aforesaid quantity;
 - (iv) the quantity and the value of the karunka that has been imported by each importer; and
 - (v) the countries from which the aforesaid amount of karunka has been imported; and
 - (vi) the value of the tax that has been paid to the government by each importer?

(8)

- (c) Will he further inform this House —
- (i) separately in relation to each year from 2010 to date, of the quantity of karunka that has been produced in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) whether he admits that an illegal process of re-exporting karunka via Sri Lanka is taking place and that the local karunka producers and exporters have been greatly inconvenienced due to this illegal process; and
 - (iii) of the measures that will be taken by the government to stop such illegal re-exporting of karunka?
- (d) If not, why?

627/16

15.

Hon. S. M. Marikkar,— To ask the Minister of Power and Renewable Energy,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) how many times breakdowns occurred at the Norochcholai Thermal Power Station during the past year;
 - (ii) how many times breakdowns occurred at the Norochcholai Thermal Power Station from its inauguration up to now;
 - (iii) what percentage of country's overall power need is met by the Norochcholai Thermal Power Station and how many units it amounts to;
 - (iv) whether it is not a risky thing for the country to depend on a thermal power station for its national power need;
 - (v) if it is not, why it is not risky; and
 - (vi) if it is, what steps will be taken to avoid that risk?
- (b) If not, why?

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Presentation of Bills

1.

The Minister of Finance,— Appropriation (Amendment),— Bill to amend the Appropriation Act, No. 16 of 2015.

2.

The Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana,— Law Commission (Amendment),— Bill to amend the Law Commission Act, No. 3 of 1969.

Notice of Motions

3.

Hon. K. K. Piyadasa,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.1),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Lasallian Community Education Services.”

4.

Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.2),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Rajitha Senarathne Foundation.”

5.

Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.3),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Lak Janasetha Foundation.”

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

Fiscal Management (Responsibility) (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*2.

Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*3.

Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*4.

Animal Feed (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*5.

Office on Missing Persons (Establishment, Administration and Discharge of Functions) Bill — Second Reading.

*6.

Registration of Deaths (Temporary Provisions) (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*7.

Universities (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*8.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce,— Regulations under the Measurement Units, Standards and Services Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Food Security under Section 60 of the Measurement Units, Standards and Services Act, No. 35 of 1995 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1921/54 of 2nd July 2015, which were presented on 05.04.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*9.

The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation,— Regulations under the Motor Traffic Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation under Section 237 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203) read with Sections 122 and VII A of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1939/4 of 02nd November 2015 in which mistakes in Sinhala and Tamil versions were corrected by the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1972/33 of 22nd June 2016, which were presented on 21.07.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*10.

The Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,— Revision of Salary and Allowances of the Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption,—

Whereas provision has been made as per Section 16(1) of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption Act, No. 19 of 1994 to appoint a Director-General to assist the said Commission in discharging the duties assigned to the Commission and to pay the holder of that post a salary as determined by the Parliament;

And whereas, approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted to pay with effect from 12.02.2015 the following salary and allowances as personal to her, to Ms. A.A.P. Dilrukshi Dias Wickramasinghe, President's Counsel and former Additional Solicitor-General of the Attorney-General's Department, on her appointment with effect from 12.02.2015 on State's initiative, as Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, which post is vulnerable and exposed to risks:—

- (a) Monthly salary and all allowances entitled to the post of Additional Solicitor-General (other than telephone allowance, fuel allowance and house-rent allowance); and
- (b) Ministry Secretaries' allowance, telephone allowance and fuel allowance entitled to the post of Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Bribery or Corruption and house-rent allowance provided government official quarters are not allocated;

Accordingly, that this Parliament resolves to pay under votes of the Consolidated Fund, the above mentioned monthly salary and allowances to Ms. A.A.P. Dilrukshi Dias Wickramasinghe, President's Counsel holding the post of Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, as per Section 16(2) of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption Act, No. 19 of 1994.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*11.

The Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,— Emoluments and Other Allowances being paid to Chairmen and Members of Independent Commissions,—

(11)

Whereas approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted to provide the payment of the following emoluments and allowances to the Chairmen and Members of the nine Independent Commissions stipulated in the Schedule of Article 41(b) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as amended by the 19th Amendment to the Constitution and to treat the date on which the relevant Commissions commenced their functions in actuality as the effective date to commence the payments:-

- (a) A monthly allowance of Rs.100,000/-, a monthly telephone allowance of Rs. 10,000/- and an official vehicle which may also be used for personal use along with a quota of 225 ltrs. of fuel or a fuel allowance on par with the prevalent fuel price in the market, to Chairmen other than the ex. officio Chairmen;
- (b) Payment of monthly allowance, equal to 50% of the monthly allowance of a Chairman of an Independent Commission, to ex. Officio Chairmen appointed to Independent Commissions, in addition to salary and other allowances in their substantive posts;
- (c) In the case of non-ex. officio Members of all other Commissions except the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, a monthly allowance of Rs. 75,000/-, a monthly telephone allowance of Rs. 8,000/- and a transport allowance of Rs. 25,000/- up to a limit of 350 kilometres or a transport allowance of Rs. 50,000/- for distance of over and above 350 kilometres depending on the distance from their residencies to the office of the Commission to be made;
- (d) An attendance allowance of Rs. 10,000/- per meeting to be made to ex. officio Members of Independent Commissions, as per provision laid down in Public Enterprises Circular No. 3/2015 of 17.06.2015;
- (e) In the case of the Chairman of Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption and Members thereof who have been equally delegated with powers in keeping with the provisions laid down in Section (8) of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption Act, No. 19 of 1994, payment of a monthly allowance of Rs. 95,000/-, a monthly telephone allowance of Rs.8,000/- and an official vehicle which may also be used for personal use along with a quota of 170 ltrs. of fuel or a fuel allowance on par with the prevalent fuel price in the market; and
- (f) Payment of a special allowance equal to $\frac{3}{4}$ of their monthly allowance to be made to the Chairman and Members of the Elections Commission during the period from the date of declaring an election to the date of releasing results thereof.

Accordingly, that this Parliament resolves to pay the above mentioned emoluments and other allowances to the Chairmen and Members of the nine Independent Commissions stipulated in the Schedule of Article 41(b) of the Constitution.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*12.

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations,— Regulations under the Industrial Disputes Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Labour and Trade Union Relations under Section 39 of the Industrial Disputes Act, No. 43 of 1950 (Chapter 131) as amended from time to time, which were presented on 07.07.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*13.

Resolution under the Constitution,— Adjourned Debate on Question (22nd June, 2016) Motion made and question proposed,— “Media guidelines to be followed/ Policies to be observed by the Electronic and Print Media during Referenda and Elections published by the Election Commission in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1955/19 of 25th February 2016 in terms of the provisions of Article 104B (5)(a) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, which were presented on 06.05.2016, be approved.”

*14.

The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation,— Regulations under the Motor Traffic Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation under Section 237 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203) read with Section 213D of the Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1946/10 of 22nd December 2015, which were presented on 09.03.2016, be approved.

*15.

Buddhist Temporalities (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*16.

Theravadi Bhikku Kathikawath (Registration) Bill — Second Reading.

*17.

The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 20 read with Sub-section (3) of Section 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 as amended by Act No. 48 of 1985 and Act, No. 28 of 1987 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1903/41 of 26th February 2015, which were presented on 23.09.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

* *Indicates Government Business*
